

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 195575
ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY EA:RBOAKLEY:VDW
APPROVED BY EA:RBOAKLEY
EA:EHEGINBOTHAM
EA/TIMBS:REFRITTS
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
EA ONLY

-----074063 180145Z /61

R 172107Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 195575

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TH

SUBJECT: FOR CHARGE FROM OAKLEY AND HEGINBOTHAM

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PROBLEMS IN TRYING TO FIT PECULIARLY THAI PROCEDURES INTO LOGICAL PATTERN COMPREHENSIBLE TO AMERICANS, PARTICULARLY EXIM AND OPIC WHERE NEW MANAGEMENT HAS ONLY LIMITED EXPERIENCE IN SUCH SITUATIONS. WE HAVE BEEN DOING OUR BEST TO CONVEY POINT YOU MAKE IN PARA 4. HOWEVER, THERE DO SEEM TO BE LEGITIMATE GROUNDS FOR CONCERN THAT COURT DECISION OF AUGUST 2 IS MORE ONEROUS THAN WHAT THANIN HAD CLEARLY IMPLIED (ALTHOUGH NOT STATED) IN HIS MEETING WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, AS WELL IN POSITION OF PROSECUTOR WHO MIGHT(AT LEAST BY US LOGIC) HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO REPRESENT MORE LENIENT POSITION OF RTG AS THE PLAINTIFF (UNDER THANIN'S FORMULA).

2. ESSENTIAL POINT FOR EXIM AND OPIC MANAGEMENT IS WHETHER
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OR NOT THERE IS IN FACT FURTHER ROOM FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON RELIEF NO MATTER HOW THIS PROCESS TAKES PLACE. IF SO, THEIR REACTION WILL BE MORE POSITIVE AND OPIC IS PREPARED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO BANGKOK TO MAKE THEIR CASE DIRECTLY - SOMETHING WHICH WE AND AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE BELIEVE PREFERABLE TO EMBASSY CONTINUING TO CARRY MAIN LOAD. IF NOT, THEY WILL TEND TO REACT NEGATIVELY ON THIS AND PERHAPS ALSO

ON FUTURE ISSUES WHERE THAILAND IS CONCERNED. THAT IS WHY
WE REQUESTED EMBASSY MAKE SUITABLY HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH TO
ASCERTAIN WHETHER THERE IS ROOM FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION OF
AUGUST 2 DECISION. VANCE

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